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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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758	7590	03/26/2004	

FENWICK & WEST LLP
SILICON VALLEY CENTER
801 CALIFORNIA STREET
MOUNTAIN VIEW, CA 94041

EXAMINER
BONSHOCK, DENNIS G

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2173	8

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) FROM
THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed
  after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any
  earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *07/06/2001*.
2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.
3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is
closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-38* is/are pending in the application.
   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6)☒ Claim(s) *1-38* is/are rejected.
7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:
      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage
         application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date *5 and 6*.
4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly
claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claim 19 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being

incomplete for omitting essential structural cooperative relationships of elements, such

omission amounting to a gap between the necessary structural connections. See

MPEP § 2172.01. The omitted structural cooperative relationships are: it is unclear

what the result will be if the first conditional "if" statement (determining if the tabular data

includes nested tables) results in a false.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2.   Claims 1-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Bertram, Patent #5,812,131 and Nicolas et al., Patent #6,593,944, hereinafter Nicolas.

3.   With regard to claim 1, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal

of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as

interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further

teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the

case of a table with less than one column or less than one row (and empty table).

Bertram discusses the adaptation of a display for a small screen (see column 3, lines 51-55), but doesn't teach tabular data in nested tables, or the removal of tabular data from outer tables. Nicolas teaches an electronic system for viewing web page data on a small-sized electronic device (see column 2, lines 34-37), similar to that of Bertram, but further teaches, nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67), and it is implied that that formatting could be removed from the outer table based on the teaching of Bertram. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system reformatting a table for a small display of Bertram to include the ability to have a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web page. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this is how a typical web page is displayed.

4.   With regard to claims 2, 30, and 36, which teach removing tabular data formatting comprising: examining columns to determine if more than one column contains a form input field, an image exceeding a maximum pixel width allowance, or text exceeding a maximum text length. Bertram further teaches in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 2, removing tabular formatting to reflow table elements, and in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields. Nicolas further teaches, in column 1, lines 58-62, data including image data and text data.

5.   With regard to claims 3, 11, and 20, which teach a maximum pixel width allowance of 120 pixels, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the reformatting of

tabular data on the basis of a maximum width allowance. The examiner takes official

notice that the maximum width allowance could be set to any value including the 120

pixels as taught by the applicant.

6.   With regard to claims 4, 12, and 21, which teach a maximum text length

allowance of 40 characters, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the

reformatting of tabular data on the basis of a maximum width allowance. The examiner

takes official notice that the maximum width allowance could be set to any value

including the 10 characters as taught by the applicant.

7.   With regard to claim 5, which teaches the removal of tabular formatting if more

that one column in the tabular data contains image data exceeding the maximum pixel

width allowance, contains a form input field, or contains text data exceeding a maximum

text length allowance, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the

current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as

interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further

teaches, in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields.

Nicolas further teaches, in column 1, lines 58-62, data including image data and text

data.

8.   With regard to claim 6, which teaches removing tabular formatting if the tabular

data exceeds the absolute maximum width allowance, Bertram teaches, in column 10,

lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements

or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

9.   With regard to claim 7, which teach a maximum pixel width allowance of 350

pixels, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the reformatting of tabular data on

the basis of a maximum width allowance. The examiner takes official notice that the

maximum width allowance could be set to any value including the 350 pixels as taught

by the applicant.

10.   With regard to claims 8, 22, and 37, determining if the tabular data contains

related images if the tabular data exceeds the absolute maximum width allowance, and

sizing the related images to fit within the absolute maximum width allowance, Bertram

teaches in column 3, lines 30-42 and in column 10, lines 33-40 and lines 46-56, the

reformatting, reflowing, and resizing of text within a table element if the text exceeds

some maximum width. Given the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas it would be obvious

to do the same with image data.

11.   With regard to claims 9 and 38, which teach removing the tabular formatting if it

is determined that tabular data contains only a single row or a single column, Bertram

teaches in column 3, line 50 through column 4, line 2 the breaking apart of tabular

portions and reorganization to facilitate the display in a smaller document, but doesn't

specifically mention removing formatting if the tabular data only contains a single row or

a single column. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having

the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to

modify system of removing tabular formatting of Bertram and Nicolas to eliminate the

tabular formatting of single row or single column tables. One would be motivated to do

so because, as stated in Bertram, in column 3, lines 50-58, unnecessary tabular formatting in small screen devices is wasteful.

12.   With regard to claim 10, which teaches determining if the tabular data contains nested tables, and removing tabular formatting for the at least one outer table, Bertram further teaches, nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67), and the removal of tabular formatting for outer tables, and it is implied that that formatting could be removed from the outer table based on the teaching of Bertram.

13.   With regard to claim 13, Bertram teaches, in column 3, lines 50-54, the displaying of web page data in a small screen display, in column 3, lines 34-36, determining if the display contains a table, and in column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, breaking apart the tabular portions and reorganizing them to allow for vertical scrolling. Bertram, teaches a system of establishing a small screen sensitive display, however, he doesn't go into the details, as did Nicolas. Nicolas teaches, in column 1, line 41 through column 2, line 15 and column 2, lines 35-37, receiving the display data in a format suitable for display in a standard screen size devise and modifying it to be displayed in a device with a small display. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system of generating small screen displays of Bertram to further point out the receiving the display in a first format. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because it is likely that Bertram's system would receive its display from a system with a large screen format because of most all web pages being formatted so.

14.   With regard to claim 14, which teaches removing the tabular formatting including

removing one or more HTML table tags from the display data, Nicolas further teaches,

in column 10, lines 40-54 the use of HTML tags for marking elements.

15.   With regard to claim 15, which teaches display data being a web page, Nicolas

teaches, in column 2, lines 34-36, the display data being a web page for a small

electronic device.

16.   With regard to claim 16, which teaches display data being HTML data, Nicolas

teaches, in column 1, lines 49-64, display data being HTML data.

17.   With regard to claim 17, Bertram teaches, in column 3, lines 50-54, the displaying

of web page data in a small screen display, in column 3, lines 34-36, determining if the

display contains a table, and in column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, breaking

apart the tabular portions and reorganizing them to allow for vertical scrolling. Bertram,

teaches a system of establishing a small screen sensitive display, however, he doesn't

go into the details, as did Nicolas or teach the formatting before sending. Nicolas

teaches, in column 1, line 41 through column 2, line 15 and column 2, lines 35-37,

receiving the display data in a format suitable for display in a standard screen size

devise and modifying it to be displayed in a device with a small display. Nicolas further

teaches, in column 3, lines 8-14 the information being processed before sending it to

the small screen device. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art,

having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was

made to modify the system of generating small screen displays of Bertram to further

point out the receiving the display in a first format from the first system. One would

have been motivated to make such a combination because it is likely that Bertram's

system would receive its display from a system with a large screen format.

18.   With regard to claim 18, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal

of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as

interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further

teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the

breaking apart of tabular portions and reorganization to facilitate the display in a smaller

document, he doesn't specifically mention removing formatting if the tabular data

contains less than two columns or less than two rows, but it would have been obvious

over Bertram and Nicolas to modify system of removing tabular formatting of Bertram

and Nicolas to eliminate the tabular formatting of tabular data containing less than two

columns or less than two rows. One would be motivated to do so because as stated in

Bertram, in column 3, lines 50-58, unnecessary tabular formatting in small screen

devices is wasteful. With further regard to claim 18, Bertram discusses the adaptation

of a display for a small screen (see column 3, lines 51-55), but doesn't teach tabular

data in nested tables, or the removal of tabular data from outer tables. Nicolas teaches

an electronic system for viewing web page data on a small-sized electronic device (see

column 2, lines 34-37), similar to that of Bertram, but further teaches, nested tables (see

column 1, lines 65-67), and it is implied that that formatting could be removed from the

outer table based on the teaching of Bertram. It would have been obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the

time the invention was made to modify the system reformatting a table for a small

display of Bertram to include the ability to have a web page formatted into several

frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the

rest of the parent web page. One would have been motivated to make such a

combination because this is how a typical web page is displayed.

20.   With regard to claim 19, Which teaches column indicators configured to indicate

that a column in the tabular data exceeds the predetermined maximum column width if:

the column contains image data exceeding a maximum pixel width allowance, the

column contains a form input field, and the column contains text data exceeding a

maximum text length allowance. Bertram further teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33,

indication being given when there is an inability to display the entire width of a table,

and in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form input fields.

Nicolas further teaches, in column 1, lines 58-62, data including image data and text

data.

21.   With regard to claim 23, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal

of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as

interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width. Bertram further teaches

in column 3, line 60 through column 4, line 2, a processor for generating a new display

format. Bertram further teaches in column 9, lines 8-42 the communication between the

processor and the memories of the systems in the exchange of data. Bertram

discusses the adaptation of a display for a small screen (see column 3, lines 51-55), but

doesn't specifically point out that the display was originally formatted for a large screen.

Nicolas teaches an electronic system for viewing web page data on a small-sized

electronic device (see column 2, lines 34-37 and column 1, lines 41-67), similar to that of Bertram, but further teaches, that the display was generated from a standard-sized electronic display. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Bertram and Nicolas before him at the time the invention was made to modify the system reformatting a table for a small display of Bertram to specify that the display was originally formatted for a standard sized display. One would have been motivated to make such a combination because this is how a typical web page is displayed.

22.   With regard to claim 24, which teaches removing formatting if the tabular data contains less than two columns or less than two rows, Bertram further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the breaking apart of tabular portions and reorganization to facilitate the display in a smaller document, he doesn't specifically mention removing formatting if the tabular data contains less than two columns or less than two rows, he does however state in the referenced section, that the user can't afford unnecessary tabular formatting, it therefor would have been obvious over Bertram and Nicolas to modify system of removing tabular formatting of Bertram and Nicolas to eliminate the tabular formatting of tabular data containing less than two columns or less than two rows.

23.   With regard to claim 25, which teaches removing tabular formatting if the tabular data indicates a horizontal display length exceeding and absolute maximum width, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document

formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

24.   With regard to claim 26, which teaches removing tabular formatting if the tabular data contains more than one column exceeding a predetermined maximum column width, Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

25.   With regard to claim 27, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from these tables.

26.   With regard to claim 28, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram further teaches, in column 3, lines 51-58 and column 3, line 65 through column 4, line 2, the case of a table with less than one column or less than one row (and empty table).

27.   With regard to claim 29, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas

teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas

each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested

tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the

removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell

elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

28.   With regard to claim 31, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes

nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas

teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas

each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested

tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the

removal of the current document formatting if the group of cell elements or the cell

elements as interpreted individually are greater than a predetermined width.

29.   With regard to claim 32, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes

nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas

teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas

each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested

tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the

removing of formatting from these tables.

30.   With regard to claim 33, which teaches determining if the tabular data includes

nested tables, wherein the nested tables include an inner table and outer tables, Nicolas

teaches, a web page formatted into several frames by a parent web page, whereas

each frame is a separate web page from the rest of the parent web pages, i.e.: nested

tables (see column 1, lines 65-67). Bertram teaches, in column 10, lines 14-33, the

removing of formatting from tables based on the width exceeding some maximum value.

31.   With regard to claim 34, which teaches removing tabular formatting if column in

the tabular data contain at least one form input field, Bertram teaches, in column 10,

lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from tables based on the width exceeding some

maximum value and in column 9, lines 42-54, and in figure 8, columns containing form

input fields.

32.   With regard to claim 35, which teaches removing tabular formatting if column in

the tabular data contain text data exceeding a maximum length, Bertram teaches, in

column 10, lines 14-33, the removing of formatting from tables based on the width

exceeding some maximum value, and further teaches, in figure 10, fields containing
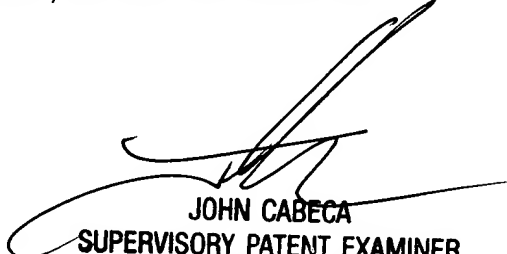
text.

Conclusion

33.   The prior art made of record on form PTO-892 and not relied upon is considered

pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Applicant is required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111(c) to

consider these references fully when responding to this action. The documents cited

therein teach systems for adapting a table for display on a small screen device.

34.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to Dennis G Bonshock whose telephone number is (703)

305-4668. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00

p.m.

35.   If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, John Cabeca can be reached on (703) 308-3116. The fax phone number

for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

36.   Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JOHN CABECA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

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